



Urgent care Aruba contributes to medical tourism by offering preventive health packages

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Pope Francis delivers his speech as he meets the indigenous communities, including First Nations, Metis and Inuit, at Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Catholic Church in Maskwacis, near Edmonton, Canada, Monday, July 25, 2022.

Associated Press

Pope apologizes for 'catastrophic' school abuses in Canada

MASKWACIS, Alberta (AP) — Pope Francis issued a historic apology Monday for the Catholic Church's cooperation with Canada's "catastrophic" policy of Indigenous residential schools, saying the forced assimilation of Native peoples into Christian society destroyed their cultures, severed families and marginalized generations in ways still being felt today. "I am deeply sorry," Francis said, to applause from school survivors and Indigenous community members gathered at a former

residential school south of Edmonton, Alberta, the first event of Francis' weeklong "penitential pilgrimage" to Canada. The morning after he arrived in the country, Francis traveled to the lands of four Cree nations to pray at a cemetery. Four chiefs then escorted the pontiff in his wheelchair to powwow ceremonial grounds where he delivered the long-sought apology and was given a feathered headdress. "I humbly beg forgiveness for the evil committed by

so many Christians against the Indigenous peoples," Francis said near the site of the former Ermineskin Indian Residential School, now largely torn down. His words went beyond his earlier apology for the "deplorable" acts of missionaries and instead took responsibility for the church's institutional cooperation with the "catastrophic" assimilation policy, which Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission said amounted to a "cultural genocide."

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Germaine Wever: A tourism professional who simply enjoys her job



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Department of meteorology Aruba issues warning regarding upcoming heat



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Continued from Front

More than 150,000 native children in Canada were forced to attend state-funded Christian schools from the 19th century until the 1970s in an effort to isolate them from the influence of their homes and culture. The aim was to Christianize and assimilate them into mainstream society, which previous Canadian governments considered superior.

The Canadian government has admitted that physical and sexual abuse was rampant at the schools, with students beaten for speaking their native languages. That legacy of that abuse and isolation from family has been cited by Indigenous leaders as a root cause of the epidemic rates of alcohol and drug addiction now on Canadian reservations.

The discoveries of hundreds of potential burial sites at former schools in the past year drew international attention to the legacy of the schools in Canada and their counterparts in the United States. The discoveries prompted Francis to comply with the truth commission's call for him to apologize on Canadian soil for the Catholic Church's role; Catholic religious orders operated 66 of the 139 schools in Canada.

Many in the crowd Monday wore traditional dress, including colorful ribbon skirts and vests with Native motifs. Others donned orange shirts, which have become a symbol of residential school survivors, recalling the story of one woman whose favorite orange shirt, a gift from her grandmother, was confiscated when



Pope Francis puts on an indigenous headdress during a meeting with indigenous communities, including First Nations, Metis and Inuit, at Our Lady of Seven Sorrows Catholic Church in Maskwacis, near Edmonton, Canada, Monday, July 25, 2022.

Associated Press

she arrived at a school and replaced with a uniform.

Despite the solemnity of the event, the atmosphere seemed at times joyful: Chiefs processed into the site venue to a hypnotic drumbeat, elders danced and the crowd cheered and chanted war songs, victory songs and finally a healing song.

One of the hosts of the event, Chief Randy Ermine-skin of the Ermineskin Cree Nation, said some had chosen to stay away — and that that was understandable. But he said it was nevertheless a historic, important day for his people. "My late family members are not here with us anymore, my parents went to residential school, I went to residential school," he told The Associated Press as he waited for Francis to arrive. "I know they're with me, they're listening, they're watching."

Felisha Crier Hosein traveled from Florida to attend in the place of her mother, who helped create the museum for the nearby Samson Cree Nation and had planned to attend, but died in May.

"I came here to represent her and to be here for the elders and the community," said Hosein, who wore one

of her mother's colorful ribbon skirts.

"Sorry is not going to make what happened go away," she said. "But it means a lot to the elders."

Prime Minister Justin Trudeau, who last year voiced an apology for the "incredibly harmful government policy" in organizing the residential school system, was also attending along with the governor general and other officials. As part of a lawsuit settlement involving the government, churches and approximately 90,000 survivors, Canada paid reparations that amounted to billions of dollars being transferred to Indigenous communities. Canada's Catholic Church says its dioceses and religious orders have provided more than \$50 million in cash and in-kind contributions and hope to add \$30 million more over the next five years.

While the pope acknowledged institutional blame, he also made clear that Catholic missionaries were merely cooperating with and implementing the government policy of assimilation, which he termed the "colonizing mentality of the powers."

"I ask forgiveness, in particular, for the ways in

which many members of the Church and of religious communities cooperated, not least through their indifference, in projects of cultural destruction and forced assimilation promoted by the governments of that time, which culminated in the system of residential schools," he said.

He said the policy marginalized generations, suppressed Indigenous languages, severed families, led to physical, verbal, psychological and spiritual abuse and "indelibly affected relationships between parents and children, grandparents and grandchildren." He called for further investigation, a possible reference to Indigenous demands for further access to church records and personnel files of the priests and nuns to identify who was responsible for the abuses. "Although Christian charity was not absent, and there were many outstanding instances of devotion and care for children, the overall effects of the policies linked to the residential schools were catastrophic," Francis said. "What our Christian faith tells us is that this was a disastrous error, incompatible with the Gospel of Jesus Christ."

The first pope from the

Americas was determined to make this trip, even though torn knee ligaments forced him to cancel a visit to Africa earlier this month. The six-day visit — which will also include other former school sites in Alberta, Quebec City and Iqaluit, Nunavut, in the far north — follows meetings Francis held in the spring at the Vatican with delegations from the First Nations, Metis and Inuit. Those meetings culminated with an April 1 apology for the "deplorable" abuses committed by some Catholic missionaries in residential schools and Francis' promise to deliver an apology in person on Canadian soil.

Francis recalled that during in April, one of the delegations gave him a set of beaded moccasins as a symbol of the children who never returned from the schools, and asked him to return them in Canada. Francis said in these months they had "kept alive my sense of sorrow, indignation and shame" but that in returning them he hoped they could also represent a path to walk together.

Event organizers said they would do everything possible to make sure survivors could attend the event, busing them in and offering mental health counselors to be on hand knowing that the event could be traumatic for some.

Francis acknowledged that the memories could trigger old wounds, and that even his mere presence there could be traumatic, but he said remembering was important to prevent indifference. "It is necessary to remember how the policies of assimilation and enfranchisement, which also included the residential school system, were devastating for the people of these lands," he said.

Later Monday, Francis was scheduled to visit Sacred Heart Church of the First Peoples, a Catholic parish in Edmonton oriented toward Indigenous people and culture. The church, whose sanctuary was dedicated last week after being restored from a fire, incorporates Indigenous language and customs in liturgy. □

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AP-NORC poll: 2 in 3 in U.S favor term limits for justices

Associated Press

WASHINGTON (AP) —

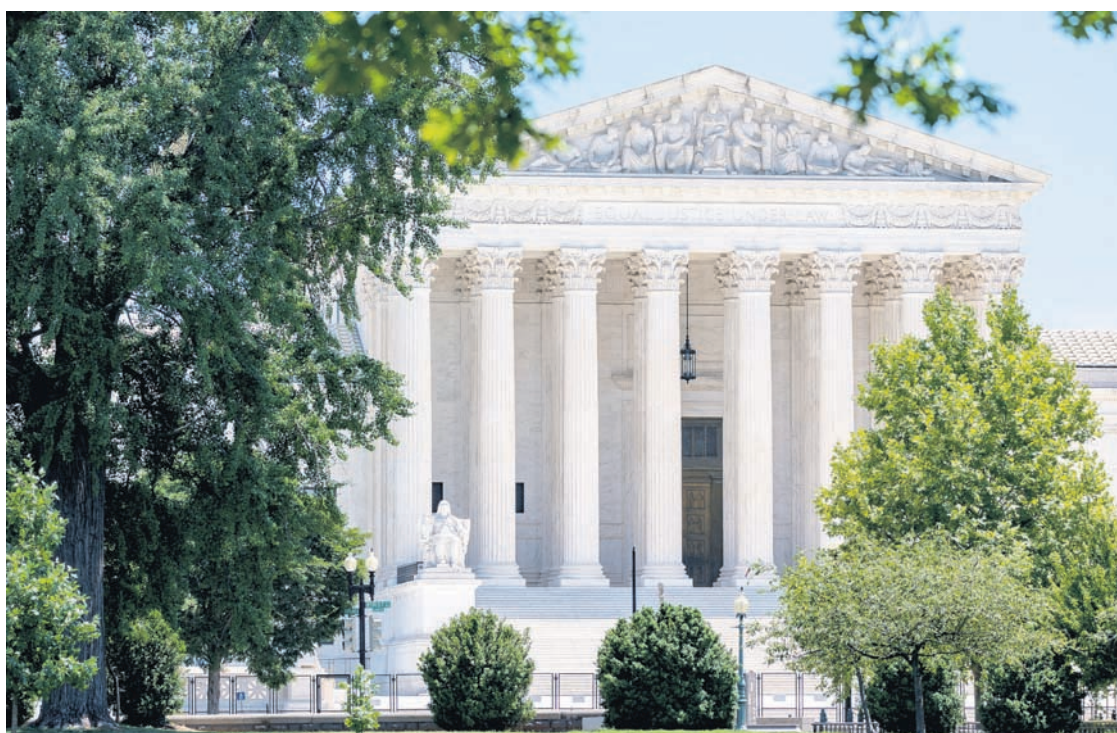
About 2 in 3 Americans say they favor term limits or a mandatory retirement age for Supreme Court justices, according to a new poll that finds a sharp increase in the percentage of Americans saying they have "hardly any" confidence in the court.

The poll from The Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research finds 67% of Americans support a proposal to set a specific number of years that justices serve instead of life terms, including 82% of Democrats and 57% of Republicans. Views are similar about a requirement that justices retire by a specific age.

The poll was conducted just weeks after the high court issued high-profile rulings including stripping away women's constitutional protections for abortion and expanding gun rights. The poll also shows more Americans disapprove than approve of the court's abortion decision, with just over half saying the decision made them "angry" or "sad."

The court, which is now taking a summer break, will return to hearing cases in October with diminished confidence among Americans. Now 43% say they have hardly any confidence in the court, up from 27% three months ago.

Inez Parker of Currie, North Carolina, said she's among those who strongly favor limits on justices' service. "I think some of those people have been up there too



The Supreme Court is seen on Capitol Hill in Washington, July 14, 2022.

Associated Press

long. They don't have new ideas. When you get a certain age and everything you get set in your ways just like I'm set in my ways," said the 84-year-old Democrat. Parker said retired justices can "work in their garden, sit on the porch and fan flies or whatever they want to do."

The Constitution gives federal judges including Supreme Court justices life tenure, but there have been recent calls for change. A commission tasked by President Joe Biden with examining potential changes to the Supreme Court studied term limits among other issues. The commission finished its work last year and its members were ultimately divided over whether they believed Congress has the power to pass a law creating the equivalent of term

limits.

Phil Boller, 90, of LaFollette, Tennessee, said he's not totally opposed to setting a limit on years of service for justices. The Republican who worked in broadcasting and later owned his own lawn care business said that "basically it's worked the way it's been going and I see no reason to change that."

The oldest member of the current court is Justice Clarence Thomas, 74, followed by Justice Samuel Alito, 72. But recent justices have served into their 80s. Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg served until her death in 2020 at age 87. Justice Anthony Kennedy retired in 2018 at 81. And Justice Stephen Breyer just retired at age 83.

Ginsburg served for 27 years, Kennedy 30 years and Breyer nearly 28 years.

Four new members have joined the court in the last five years, bringing down the average age of the court's members. Three justices are in their 60s: Chief Justice John Roberts, 67, and Justices Sonia Sotomayor, 68, and Elena Kagan, 62. The remaining justices are in their 50s. Neil Gorsuch is 54, Brett Kavanaugh 57, Amy Coney Barrett 50 and Ketanji Brown Jackson 51.

Another proposal Biden's committee studied was increasing the number of justices on the court, and the poll shows that proposal evenly dividing Americans. Overall, 34% say they're in favor, while 34% are opposed and 32% say they hold neither opinion. Democrats are more in favor than opposed, 52% to 14%, while Republicans are more opposed than in fa-

vor, 61% to 14%.

The poll also found increased dissatisfaction with the court since three months ago, before the court overturned the 1973 *Roe v. Wade* decision guaranteeing a right to abortion.

In the April poll, conducted before a draft of the court's decision was leaked, 18% said they had a great deal of confidence, 54% said they had only some and 27% said they had hardly any. Now, 17% say they have a great deal of confidence, 39% only some and 43% hardly any.

Patrick Allen, a Democrat from Logan, Utah, is one of those with hardly any confidence in the court. Allen, 33, said he feels as though justices generally vote on issues based on the party of the president that appointed them. "They're sticking more to their guns along the lines of their party instead of the Constitution," he said.

The poll shows the drop in confidence is concentrated among Democrats, adding to evidence that the court's decision on abortion worsened and polarized already tenuous opinions of the court. A large partisan gap in views of the court that did not exist before the decision emerged; 64% of Democrats say they have hardly any confidence, up from 27% in April. Another 31% have only some and just 4% have a great deal of confidence — down from 17%. Among Republicans, however, views of the court have improved. □

Mississippi public schools can make their own gun policies

MICHAEL GOLDBERG

Associated Press/Report for America

JACKSON, Miss (AP) —

Amid a series of mass shootings in the U.S., Mississippi education officials made clear that school districts in the state can make their own rules for letting armed people with enhanced carry licenses onto school property.

Following killings at Uvalde's Robb Elementary School, a July Fourth parade near Chicago and an Indiana mall, the Mississippi Board of Education voted Thursday to update a 1990 internal policy that prohibited anyone other than law enforcement from carrying guns on public school campuses.

Thursday's step removed language from the 1990 policy, which the department said conflicted with Mississippi's 2011 enhanced conceal carry law. The department also argued that the old policy "predates any notable school shootings."

"A school district may, in its discretion, prohibit or allow its employees who hold enhanced conceal carry licenses to possess weapons at the school," said Jean Cook, director of communication for the Mississippi Department of Education.



Paula Vanderford, chief accountability officer for the Mississippi Department of Education, left, listens to Erin Meyer, a special attorney general assigned to the department, presents a summary on why the state should initiate a takeover process of the Jackson Public Schools to members of the Commission on School Accreditation in Jackson, Miss., Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017.

Associated Press

The 2011 law allows individuals with enhanced carry licenses to carry guns on public school campuses. Enhanced licenses require training and allow gun owners to carry in several places where those with basic permits cannot.

At the boarding meeting, Erin Meyer, the education department's general counsel, said state law provides "local school districts with the authority and discretion to determine" its

weapons policies. School districts can decide for themselves whether or not employees who hold enhanced carry licenses can bring guns onto school property.

School districts must also adopt policies that apply to non-employees. A 2013 state attorney general's opinion argued teachers or administrators can refuse to meet with armed people in a "non-public" school area. Mississippi K-12 schools are

closed to the public, but a school concert, play or sporting event is open to the public, Cook said.

Patricia Ice, a volunteer with the Mississippi chapter of Moms Demand Action, a gun reform organization, urged school districts to adopt policies that limit firearms on campus.

"Allowing teachers and members of the public to carry guns in our K-12 schools is a dangerous idea that will further jeopardize

the safety of students and staff alike," Ice said. "We need the adults in the room to make evidence-based policy decisions that will actually keep our children safe, rather than making decisions that will put more guns in their classrooms and put our kids at risk."

Erich Pratt, senior vice president with Gun Owners of America, said the group fully supports policies to allow willing teachers, administrators and support staff to carry concealed weapons on school campuses.

"Not only will they serve as a concrete deterrent against those who consider acts of evil, but should someone still try to attack a school, these policies will help to neutralize the threat and mitigate any loss of life," Pratt said.

At an Indiana mall in July, a bystander shot and killed a man carrying out a shooting that claimed the lives of three people and wounded two others. But it is rare in the U.S. for an active shooter to be stopped in such fashion. From 2000 to 2021, fewer than 3% of 433 active attacks in the U.S. ended with a civilian firing back, according to the Advanced Law Enforcement Rapid Response Training Center at Texas State University. □

Police: Woman opened fire in Dallas airport; cop shot her



A traveler makes her way past emergency responders standing outside the ticketing and check in area at Dallas Love Field in Dallas, Monday, July 25, 2022.

Associated Press

DALLAS (AP) — A 37-year-old woman fired several gunshots, apparently at the ceiling, inside of Dallas'

Love Field Airport on Monday before an officer shot and wounded her, authorities said.

The woman was dropped off at the airport at about 11 a.m., walked inside near the ticketing counters and then entered a bathroom, Dallas police Chief Eddie Garcia said at a news conference. She emerged wearing a hooded sweatshirt or some other clothing that she hadn't arrived in, pulled a gun and fired several shots, apparently at the ceiling, he said.

"At this point, we don't know where exactly the individual was aiming," Garcia said.

An officer who was nearby shot the woman in her "lower extremities," wounding her and enabling her to be taken into custody, Garcia said. She was taken to a lo-

cal hospital for treatment.

"No other individuals were injured in this event other than the suspect," Garcia said.

He didn't release the woman's name or speculate as to what her motive might have been.

"We wanted to ensure that our community knows that this is not an active situation," the chief said.

Karen Warner told The Dallas Morning News that she was checking in for her flight when she heard a loud argument about 20 feet (6 meters) behind her, followed by a gunshot. Then she started running.

"I heard about 10 more shots while I was running away," said Warner, who

couldn't discern what the argument was about.

An airport spokeswoman said early Monday afternoon that airport operations were suspended and would resume once police finished investigating. The Transportation Safety Administration tweeted at around 2 p.m. that normal security checkpoints had resumed. The Federal Aviation Administration said that starting right after the shots were fired, flights bound for Love Field were being held at their departure airports. Love Field, which serves as a hub for Southwest Airlines, is one of two major airports in the Dallas-Fort Worth area. It is located just north of downtown Dallas. □

Russia says it wants to end Ukraine's 'unacceptable regime'

By SUSIE BLANN

Associated Press

KYIV, Ukraine (AP) — Russia's top diplomat said Moscow's overarching goal in Ukraine is to free its people from its "unacceptable regime," expressing the Kremlin's war aims in some of the bluntest terms yet as its forces pummel the country with artillery barrages and airstrikes. The remark from Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov comes amid Ukraine's efforts to resume grain exports from its Black Sea ports something that would help ease global food shortages under a new deal tested by a Russian strike on Odesa over the weekend.

"We are determined to help the people of eastern Ukraine to liberate themselves from the burden of this absolutely unacceptable regime," Lavrov said at an Arab League summit in Cairo late Sunday, referring to Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy's government.

Apparently suggesting that Moscow's war aims extend beyond Ukraine's industrial Donbas region in the east, Lavrov said: "We will certainly help the Ukrainian people to get rid of the regime, which is absolutely anti-people and anti-historical."

Lavrov's comments followed his warning last week that Russia plans to retain control over broader areas beyond eastern Ukraine, including the Kherson and Zaporizhzhia regions in the south, and will make more gains elsewhere.

His remarks contrasted with the Kremlin's line early in the war, when it repeatedly emphasized that Russia wasn't seeking to overthrow Zelenskyy's government, even as Moscow's troops closed in on Kyiv. Russia later retreated from around the capital and turned its attention to capturing the Donbas. The war is now in its sixth month.

Last week, Russia and Ukraine signed agreements aimed at clearing the way for the shipment of millions of tons of desperately needed Ukrainian grain, as



In this handout photo released by Russian Foreign Ministry Press Service, Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, right, listens to Secretary General of the Arab League Secretary General Ahmed Aboul Gheit during their meeting in Cairo, Egypt, Sunday, July 24, 2022.

Associated Press

well as the export of Russian grain and fertilizer. Ukraine's deputy infrastructure minister, Yury Vaskov, said the first shipment of grain is planned for this week.

While Russia faced accusations that the weekend attack on the port of Odesa amounted to reneging on the deal, Moscow insisted the strike would not affect grain deliveries.

During a visit to the Republic of Congo on Monday, Lavrov repeated the Russian claim that the attack targeted a Ukrainian naval vessel and a depot containing Western-supplied anti-ship missiles. He said the grain agreements do not prevent Russia from attacking military targets. In other developments:

Russia's gas giant Gazprom said it would further reduce the flow of natural gas through a major pipeline to Europe to 20% of capacity, citing equipment repairs. The move heightened fears that Russia is trying to pressure and divide Europe over its support for Ukraine at a time when countries are trying to build up their supplies of gas for the winter.

Ukraine's presidential office said Monday at least two civilians were killed and 10 wounded in Russian shelling over the preceding 24 hours. In the Kharkiv re-

gion, workers searched for people believed trapped under the rubble after 12 rockets hit the town of Chuhuiv before dawn, damaging a cultural cen-

ter, school and other infrastructure, authorities said. Kharkiv Gov. Oleh Synyehubov said: "It looks like a deadly lottery when no one knows where the next strike will come."

— Ukraine charged two former cabinet ministers with high treason over their role in extending Moscow's lease on a navy base in Crimea in 2010. Prosecutors said Oleksandr Lavrynovych and Kostyantyn Hryshchenko conspired with then-President Viktor Yanukovich to rush a treaty through parliament granting Moscow a 25-year extension, leaving Crimea vulnerable to Russian aggression.

— Russia said it thwarted an attempt by Ukrainian intelligence to bribe Russian military pilots to turn their planes over to Ukraine. In a video released by Russia's main security agency, a man purported to be a Ukrainian intelligence officer offered a pilot \$2 million to surrender his plane during a mission over Ukraine. The Russian claims couldn't be independently verified. □

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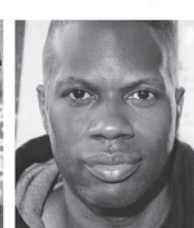
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Philippine leader vows recovery but quiet on human rights

By JIM GOMEZ

Associated Press

MANILA, Philippines (AP) —

Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr. vowed to considerably ease poverty, boost economic recovery and defend the country's territory in his first key policy speech Monday that avoided contentious issues like human rights and pervasive corruption.

Amid soaring costs of living following the coronavirus pandemic and the global fallout from the Ukraine war, Marcos Jr. said "we can no longer afford another lockdown."

"I do not intend to diminish the risks and challenges that we face in this turbulent time in global history," he said, adding that "I see sunlight filtering through these dark clouds."

With the "best Filipino minds" working in his administration, the president said: "We will endure."

Activists rejected his upbeat outlook and criticized his silence on human rights issues, his plan to deal with decades-old communist and Muslim insurgencies, allegations of widespread extrajudicial killings and his family's legal troubles, including the non-payment



New Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos Jr., delivers his first state of the nation address in, Quezon city, Philippines, Monday, July 25, 2022.

Associated Press

of a huge estate tax. They said scant details in his state of the nation address did not inspire public confidence.

The presidential speech "suffers from a crisis of clarity, direction and vision," the left-wing Akbayan group said, adding that Marcos Jr. offered "nothing new, bold or extraordinary" to confront the country's multiple crises.

About 5,000 flag-waving

protesters marched ahead of his speech. They issued a range of demands, from government aid and fuel subsidy to justice for human rights victims under Marcos Jr.'s father, the late dictator who was ousted in a 1986 pro-democracy "People Power" uprising.

They asked Marcos Jr. to outline a clear roadmap out of the economic hardships. More than 20,000 police, anti-riot contingents

and troops were deployed in metropolitan Manila, where a gun ban has been imposed, to secure the late-afternoon ceremony at the House of Representatives. Thousands of pro-Marcos supporters were allowed to gather outside the heavily secured compound for a musical concert.

Marcos Jr. did not announce any new taxes, except on online services, and said the bureaucracy

would be streamlined but did not specify if that includes layoffs.

The Philippines will adopt an independent foreign policy, he said, and added: "I will not preside over any process that will abandon even a square inch of territory of the Republic of the Philippines to any foreign power."

It was an obvious reference to Manila's long-running feud with China and four other claimants in the disputed South China Sea.

He also promised to improve the country's health system to deal with continuing coronavirus threats. The Philippines has been among the countries worst-hit in Asia by the two-year pandemic after more than 60,000 deaths and extended lockdowns sent the economy to its worst recession in 2020 since World War II and worsened poverty, unemployment, hunger and debts.

In a bid to boost agricultural output and foster economic growth, Marcos Jr. said he would order a one-year suspension of land and interest payments by farmers, who could then invest the money to boost production. □

Boat carrying Haitian migrants sinks off Bahamas, killing 17



In this photo provided by the Royal Bahamas Defense Force, survivors sit on a capsized boat as they are about to be rescued near New Providence in the Bahamas, early Sunday, July 24, 2022.

Associated Press

MEXICO CITY (AP) — A boat carrying Haitian migrants apparently capsized off the Bahamas early Sunday, and Bahamian secu-

rity forces recovered the bodies of 17 people and rescued 25 others, authorities said.

It wasn't clear if there were

any people missing after the boat sank about seven miles from New Providence. Prime Minister Philip Davis said in a statement that the dead included 15 women, one man and an infant. He said the people rescued were taken for observation by health workers.

Davis said investigators had determined that a twin-engine speed boat left the Bahamas about 1 a.m. carrying as many as 60 people, apparently bound for Miami.

Davis said a criminal investigation had begun into the suspected human smuggling operation.

"I would like to convey the condolences of my government and the people of the Bahamas to the families of those who lost their lives

in this tragedy," Davis said. "My government, from the time it came to office, has warned against these treacherous voyages." Haitian Prime Minister Ariel Henry said he sympathized with the parents of the victims.

"This new drama saddens the whole nation," he said. "I launch, once again, an appeal for national reconciliation in order to solve the problems that are driving away, far from our soil, our brothers, our sisters, our children."

A year after the assassination of Haitian President Jovenel Moïse last July, gang violence has grown worse and Haiti has gone into a freefall that has seen the economy tumble. Attempts to form a coalition government have faltered,

and efforts to hold general elections have stalled. The turmoil has led a growing number of people to flee the country of more than 11 million in search of a better and safer life.

Several sinkings involving migrants have occurred in the Caribbean this year, including one in May in which 11 people were confirmed dead and 38 were saved off Puerto Rico.

Another incident in January saw one man rescued and another confirmed dead after a boat carrying 40 migrants went down off Florida, with the missing never found.

Governments in the region, including the United States, have reported a surge in the number of Haitians detained trying to enter other countries. □

A.T.A. and San Nicolas Business Association focusing on tourism development in San Nicolas

ORANJESTAD – Recently, Aruba Tourism Authority held a meeting with San Nicolas Business Association (SNBA) to discuss a variety of topics important for San Nicolas and for Tourism. Among other things, they discussed different ongoing projects that A.T.A. is a part of, as well as projects that are underway relating to the enhancing of the product and experiences in San Nicolas, as well as the promotion of San Nicolas.

Focus points include the branding of San Nicolas, the restoration of the ladder at Rodger's Beach and the following steps regard-

ing this; projects from the so-called 'amenities committee' which is focused, among other things, on a new attraction in San Nicolas; the tourism office in San Nicolas; Master Plan Serroe Colorado; information signs; and various events, including Aruba Art Fair.

During this meeting, Armando Goedgefrag also explained the idea behind the new mural that he painted, commissioned by A.T.A.

The parties were pleased with the work of Armando, which continues elevating a cultural and artistic centre in San Nicolas, deco-



rated with various murals. Through Aruba Art Fair, the following edition of which will take place this November, they will continue promoting this aspect.

In the following months, they will continue working together with various partners on new projects for San Nicolas. A.T.A. hopes

to continue counting with the community's support for these projects, and will remain in close contact with San Nicolas Business Association.

Department of meteorology Aruba issues warning regarding upcoming heat

Heat advisory for the next few months as we are approaching the hottest part of the year

Oranjestad - We are approaching the hottest part of the year which is the months of August, September and October.

The high temperatures and humidity percentages combined with a lighter wind than normal will cause

discomfort-feelings during the next few months. The high temperatures should range from 34°C (93 f) to 36°C (97 f) degrees Celsius with

humidity in the mid 80's to high 90's. This will make for heat index values (apparent temperatures) around 43°C (109 f) to 46°C (115 f) degrees each day.

The heat and humidity will not subside much at night with temperatures only dropping into the high 20's (29 to 27°C, 84 to 81 f). This will add to the danger for people who cannot find a way to adequately cool down.

Excessive heat is the number one weather killer and people should be prepared for the dangers excessive heat possesses. Young children, elderly people and those with illnesses or heart conditions are most at risk.

Limit outdoor activities to early in the morning or until evening hours (when the sun has already set). If you have a working air conditioner make use it or at least open windows and allow air to circulate.

Precautionary/preparedness actions to take:

A heat advisory means that a period of hot temperatures is expected. The combination of hot temperatures and high humidity will combine to create a situation in which heat illnesses are possible. Drink plenty of fluids (water, unsweetened juice), stay in an air-conditioned room and stay out of the sun and wear preferably light color clothing (white).





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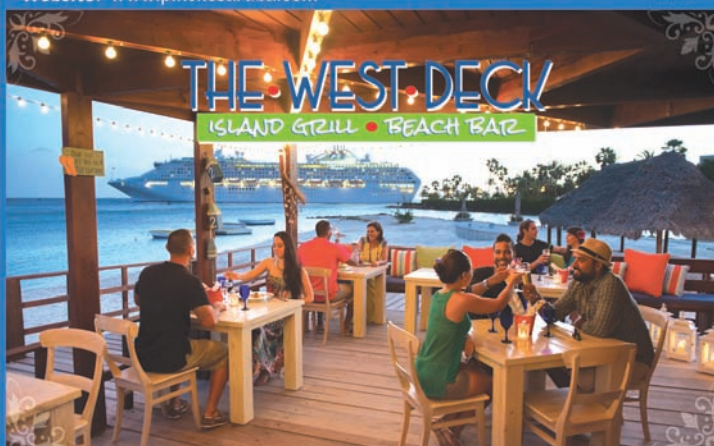


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ORANJESTAD - On Friday, July 22, 2022, Sr. Giovanni Nicolaas completed his training and received his certificate as official K-9 instructor.

Giovanni has been the supervisor of the Customs K-9 team since 2019.

Present on this occasion were the Director of Customs, Section head of Customs detectives, canine instructor of the Scent Imprint institute, the inspectors that helped with the examinations of the dogs, his colleagues of Customs K-9 team, and the

Head of General Affairs and the HR-staff.

Customs Aruba thanked Scent Imprint Institute for the expertise and guidance Giovanni's training. The teamwork has been in existence since 2015 and it reflects in the daily activities of the Customs K-9 team

The Management and Staff of Customs Aruba congratulates Mr. Giovanni Nicolaas on his achievement and work as K-9 instructor. □

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Attractions and Sightseeing locations in Aruba



ORANJESTAD — There are enough sightseeing locations on the island to fill up a month-long vacation. Aruba's beaches are a big attraction, and although it's great to spend long days just relaxing on the beach and listening to the ocean, there are also plenty of opportunities to get to know Aruba's most attractive sights, historical and natural attractions, and museums. Check out these attractions you don't want to miss!

Blue Horses in Downtown, Oranjestad

This series of 8 sculptures were created by native Aruban artist Osaira Muyale. She named the project Paarden Baai, which translates to "Horse Bay". The statues were

installed in 2015 and pay homage to the rich history of Aruba's horse trading industry. In the 17th Century Aruba was used by many countries (Europe, South America, Caribbean islands, and the Mediterranean) as a trading post. The most popular being cattle and horse trading. Horses were once the most important sources of livelihood for Aruba.

For 4 centuries the horse and cattle trade ran strong. At any given time Aruba was home to herds of thousands of horses that roamed the island. Aruba being the perfect trading post encouraged an extremely diverse culture and is the reason almost all Arubans speak more than 1 or 2 languages.



Each of the 8 bright royal blue horses is unique and carries its own name and personality. Pictured above is the mare Sinforosa, but you can also find Saturnina, Escapia, Rosalina, Eufrosina, Ambrosio, Bonifacia, and Celestina. The sculptures embody strength, nobility, grace, beauty and freedom. They represent the historical moment where the horses jumped from the ship decks into the Caribbean and swam to the Aruban Bay.

When you visit Aruba be sure to explore downtown Oranjestad and try to find all 8!

The Lourdes Grotto

Named in commemoration of the

famous French religious landmark, was created under the guidance of a priest named "Erkamp" and parishioners in the year 1958. The grotto, a shrine built into the rocks is located in Seroe Preto, just off the main road to San Nicolas.

A statue of the Virgin Mary, weighing 700 kilos, was hoisted into place in the grotto. Every year, on February 11 (feast of Lady of Lourdes), a procession leaves from the St. Theresita church in San Nicolas to the grotto, where a mass is performed. The grotto is located roadside and can be visited daily. Just make sure you park safely in the event you wish to stop for pictures at this location.

Bubali Bird Sanctuary

Watch more than 80 species of migratory birds from the Bubali watch tower, overlooking their resting and breeding area. The observation tower allows birdwatchers to get a true birds' eye view. Migratory birds, looking for lush vegetation in which to nest, find an oasis within the Bubali Bird Sanctuary. The nearby water treatment facility empties into two inter-connected man-made bird ponds. Birds that inhabit the sanctuary include herons, egrets, gulls, skimmers, coots, ducks and more. Located within walking distance of the Palm Beach resorts, the Bubali Bird Sanctuary offers some unique bird watching opportunities. You can't miss it as it is located just in front of the historical Old Dutch Windmill. Make sure to bring your camera as many of these birds will randomly fly by the observation tower giving a little show. This is a great place to bring kids for a unique and possibly once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to be so close to the untamed.

The happiest island in the Caribbean is so much more than just sun, sand and sea. ☐



Germaine Wever: A tourism professional who simply enjoys her job



The smile is always there, and also the patience, but for the Front Services Manager of Aruba Hilton Resort, that is not an effort but part of her passion for her job.

Germaine Wever always loved communication and she thought her career would be in journalism. As a young adult, she did interviews for the show InTop in TeleAruba. She particularly interviewed others to show what are the options for young adults to choose a career.

And during one of her interviews, she visited Aruba Hotel School, back then at the Bushiri Hotel, and her future was determined from that moment. Germaine fell in love with the idea of working in tourism, and chose to start attending AHS. "I started the school of hotel tourism when I was 19, and I never left the hotel world."

Scholarship

The study in Aruba was covered by a scholarship from Sun Development and thanks to Aruba Scholarship Foundation, the young woman finished her advanced studies at Florida International University, ready to conquer Aruba's tourism industry. "I am very thankful to have received the scholarships. My mom was a widow, she wasn't working. My dad passed away and I didn't have any financial support from that side. The family didn't have the means to pay for a study in the U.S. for me." To support herself and pay the difference that the scholarships didn't cover,



Germaine was using all the small scholarships available at the university itself, and put all her efforts towards maintaining high grades in order to remain eligible for financial support.

While she was in the U.S., Germaine worked at two hotels, including a Best Western, but as soon as she got the chance she came back to Aruba, where she worked at Wyndham and then moved to the Radisson.

Meanwhile, Radisson became Hilton, but for Germaine, the change was only in name, because it was her home away from home.

Working with passion

For Germaine, the hotel is part of her life and her colleagues are like a family. Her social media illustrates the joy that Germaine and her colleagues express when they're together – even during difficult times. "I enjoy my job a lot. It gives a lot of satisfaction." But even Germaine Wever

must admit that not always working in tourism is easy, because working with people is not easy. "It's a love-hate relationship", she explains. "It's a passion, like in any relationship, same as a marriage. You have to keep the passion alive because otherwise it becomes a routine."

And working in the sector doesn't become routine if you can find the beautiful aspects of tourism. "It's about dealing with people every day. Not every person is the same; each person you help is different. And if there's no passion, if there's no connection, it doesn't work." And this relationship is not only with the visitor, but also with employees and colleagues. "You have to work with different departments, and sometimes you hate the circumstances, but most of the times you like it."

Special guests

Each guest, each visitor is special. And they all feel special because they paid to come to Aruba, which



is not a cheap destination. As the person in charge of front desk, Germaine has experienced many who didn't have a problem expressing their disgust. But Wever doesn't see angry tourists or guests as a problem anymore. It's part of the job and she knows how to handle such a situation. "I think I have so much time on the job, it comes naturally."

Her approach is simple: Just listen to the guest. "It's the most basic that you learn, listening to the tourist sincerely. Show empathy, and always say sorry. Always say sorry but also sincerely, the apology needs to be genuine. You have to put yourself in the other person's shoes, because they will see the difference."

And the reward is more than just a calm guest. Germaine has experienced different tourists that she had to help, who were angry and now are real friends. "A few of them. But the one who stayed with me

the most is a British gentleman, who together with his wife travelled around the world and come to Aruba every year (with the exception during the pandemic." The man was very angry with something in his room and went to the Radisson front desk to complain. "I remember that at one point he walked away, but then he came back to apologize for his reaction. And from that day, we are good friends. He even would come eat at home with my family, or we all go out for a meal together." Those are the beautiful aspects of the job, which give a lot of satisfaction, Wever says.

And even though the criticism of a tourist is hard for the community, in general Germaine hears mostly positive comments. One day a guest told her that Aruba really is 'One Happy Island' and gave as a reason that his wife, who normally wakes up complaining every morning, "today she woke up happy".



CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

ACROSS

- 1 Diverts
- 7 House topper
- 11 Small restaurant
- 12 Writer Ferber
- 13 Sensible
- 15 Hired thugs
- 16 Docking spot
- 18 Kid
- 21 Prohibits
- 22 Swindled
- 24 Fitting
- 25 Road to take
- 26 25-Down, in France
- 27 Hamburg talk
- 29 Make lots
- 30 Decisive defeat
- 31 Long-snouted fish
- 32 Amber, essentially
- 34 Pioneered, as a movement
- 40 Pharmacy unit
- 41 Vocal range
- 42 Line of symmetry
- 43 Make numb

DOWN

- 1 Jackson 5 hit
- 2 A thou thou
- 3 Employ
- 4 Play places
- 5 Goof
- 6 Manhattan area
- 7 Logic
- 8 Strange
- 9 Lowest die roll
- 10 Passing craze
- 14 Take pleasure in
- 16 Copier need
- 17 Prologue
- 19 Be furtive
- 20 Throw with effort
- 21 Chips buy
- 22 Paint buy
- 23 Word on a bill
- 25 Bottled buy
- 28 Diego Rivera works
- 29 Target at a party
- 31 Component
- 33 Not barefoot
- 34 Hotel amenity
- 35 Films, slangily
- 36 Actor Wallach
- 37 Pop
- 38 Eden resident
- 39 Bear's lair

A	D	A	P	T		S	T	O	M	P
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Yesterday's answer

1	2	3	4	5	6		7	8	9	10
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	30						31			
			32			33				
34	35	36						37	38	39
40						41				
42						43				

7-26

A X Y D L B A A X R
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

7-26

CRYPTOQUOTE

THGTCH VDUN PDZRADCUDHZ
PG OGU OHHP UG AH YDQHP;
UNHI OHHP UG AH RKKHTUHP
YGX VNG UNHI RXH. — LGXPRO
KNXDZUDRO

Yesterday's Cryptoquote: SUMMER HAS FILLED HER VEINS WITH LIGHT AND HER HEART IS WASHED WITH NOON. — C. DAY LEWIS

How to budget realistically for home repairs



This undated file photo provided by NerdWallet shows Liz Weston, a columnist for personal finance website NerdWallet.com.

Associated Press

By LIZ WESTON
NerdWallet

If you're a homeowner and haven't faced a big repair bill yet, just wait. Even in the best-maintained homes, stuff will wear out or break. Budgeting for these inevitable bills isn't always easy. One commonly cited rule of thumb — to save 1% to 4% of your home's value each year for maintenance and repairs — can give homeowners sticker shock as real estate prices soar.

Accredited financial counselor Kate Mielitz recently purchased a home in Olympia, Washington, where the median listing price is \$540,000, according to Realtor.com. Saving even 1% of that, or \$5,400, would be a stretch for many owners, says Mielitz, who advises low- to middle-income clients. Saving 4% would mean putting aside \$21,600 a year.

"I want to cry just looking at that number," Mielitz says.

HOME COSTS DEPEND ON AGE, CONDITION, CLIMATE

Rules of thumb have limited value, though, because how much you spend often depends on the age of your home, materials used and local climate patterns, among other factors, says John Wessling, president of the American Society of Home Inspectors.

For example, a laminated-shingle roof may last 35 to 40 years in St. Louis, where Wessling lives. But it could survive less than 15 years

under Florida's harsh sun, he says. Extreme weather events can wreak havoc on homes as well.

How well you maintain your house also can have a big impact, Wessling says. Many homeowners don't notice window caulking that dries out and splits, for instance, but the water that seeps in can cause enormous damage.

"What might be a \$12 or \$15 repair could turn into spending \$15,000 or \$20,000 to rebuild that wall below the window," Wessling says. Homeowners spent an average of \$950 on home maintenance — or 0.6% of the home's value — in 2019, according to the latest American Housing Survey conducted by the U.S. Census Bureau. But the amounts varied considerably based on home sizes and age, among other factors. For instance, the percentage of a home's value spent on maintenance rose from 0.2% for homes built in the 2010s to 0.8% for homes built before 1960.

DECIDING HOW MUCH TO SET ASIDE

People who prefer to hire others should expect to spend more than do-it-yourselfers, says Mischa Fisher, chief economist for home services referral website, Angi. Angi's survey of 2,934 homeowners who paid for home improvements last year found that they spent an average \$3,018 on home maintenance,

Fisher says. Those amounts typically ranged between 0.5% and 1% of their home's value. In addition, homeowners spent an average of \$2,321 on emergency repairs.

Fisher recommends homeowners set aside up to 5% of their incomes for home maintenance as well as \$10,000 to cover emergency repairs and system replacements.

Another approach is to save based on the remaining lifespan of your home's various components, including the roof, the heating and cooling systems, the hot water heater and appliances.

You can search online for charts and articles that estimate how long components typically last, Wessling says. Similar searches can give you an idea of replacement costs. Alternatively, hire a home inspector to conduct a home maintenance inspection, Wessling says. Like the inspections that precede a home purchase, a maintenance inspection can estimate when various home systems likely will need to be replaced. Wessling says he typically charges \$400 to \$500 for inspections.

Let's say you have a 5-year-old air conditioning system, which typically have life spans of 15 to 20 years, Wessling says. If a new system would cost \$4,000, you might save \$400 a year to cover it. You could add a fudge factor to account for future inflation, which is, unfortunately, unpredictable. Wessling suggests adding 20% to the expected cost and an additional \$100 a year to your savings.

OTHER WAYS TO PREPARE FOR HOME COSTS

Consider setting up a home equity line of credit that you can tap if repair bills exceed what you've saved. These lines of credit tend to be less expensive than many alternatives, such as credit cards. Just be sure you can make the payments: If you don't, the lender can foreclose on your home. □

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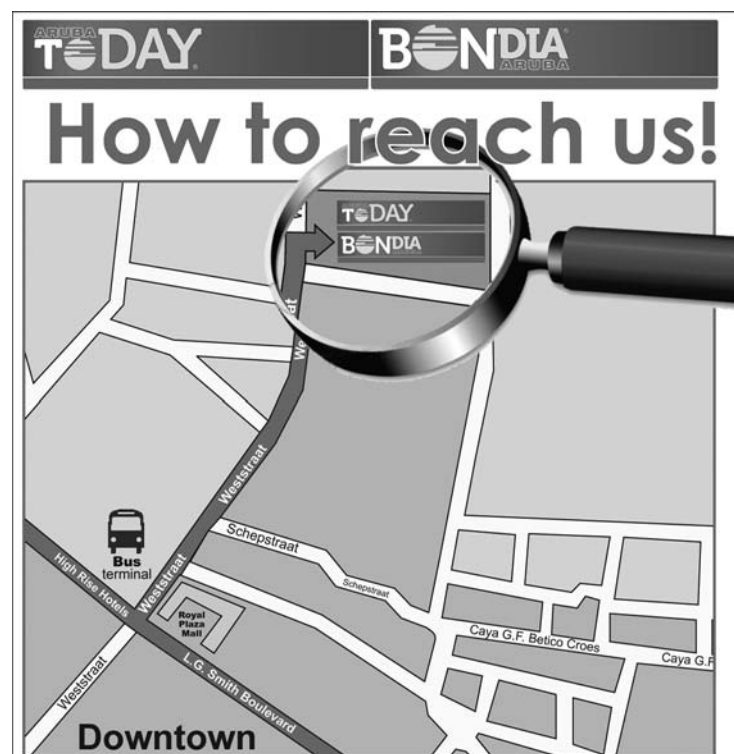
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Q&A: Jordan Peele on the dreams and nightmares of 'Nope'

By JAKE COYLE

AP Film Writer

NEW YORK (AP) — There's little in contemporary movies quite like the arrival of a new Jordan Peele film. They tend to descend ominously and mysteriously, a little like an unknown object from above that casts an expanding, darkening shadow the closer it comes. "Nope," the writer-director's third film, is nearly here. After Peele's singular debut, "Get Out," about the possession of Black bodies and the fallacy of post-racial America, and his follow-up, "Us," a monstrous tale of doppelgangers and societal mirrors, the closely-kept-under-wraps "Nope" brings a new set of horrors and unsettling metaphors. For Peele, who writes through shooting and considers the conversation generated by a movie one of its main ingredients, "Nope" is far from a finished project.

"Movie's done," Peele said in a recent interview. "I'm still writing it."

It's Peele's most ambitious film yet, a flying saucer horror that digs into the nature of spectacle and the desire to document it — a multithreaded theme that encompasses Hollywood history and "Nope," itself. Daniel Kaluuya and Keke Palmer star as a brother and sister in a family horse wrangling business for film productions. Their California ranch is visited by a strange and violent force in the clouds that they strive to capture on film.

"Nope," which opens in theaters Friday, also extends Peele's own self-conjured mythology. His movies are very loosely tethered together (some fictional establishments appear in several of them), and now even encompass a "Nope" theme park attraction at



This image released by Universal Pictures shows actor Daniel Kaluuya, left, and writer/director Jordan Peele on the set of "Nope."

Associated Press

Universal Studios Hollywood. Peele's dark world is increasingly ours.

For Peele, as he said speaking recently by Zoom from Los Angeles, "Nope" is about reaching for a kind of Hollywood movie once unattainable. He pointedly opens the film with Eadweard Muybridge's 1887 photographic study showing a Black rider on a horse. It was one of the first moving pictures. But while the name of the horse and its owner was recorded, the name of the Black jockey is unknown.

"I feel like this is the first moment that anyone would ever allow me or anyone to make this movie. And so I had to take advantage. I had to go as big as possible," said Peele. "I was like: 'Let's go.'"

Responses have been edited for brevity and clarity.

AP. The Eadweard Muybridge loop looms over 'Nope'; your characters are said to be descendants from its unnamed rider. To you, what does it mean that the erasure of Black men was there at the foundation of cinema?

Peele: It's a sad part of this industry. It was something I was learning at a good point for myself in this story. I felt like five, 10 years ago, I would never have been able to sell this movie to anyone. So I'm juxtaposing this origin story of film at the same time I'm trying to make a story that's scary and joyous and adventurous and everything I love about film. It just felt very fitting for that starting point to be acknowledged and have ancestral implications for our main characters.

AP: Do you think of your movie as like an antidote to that film?

Peele: Yes. I've been trying to put that together. It's a sequel, it's an antidote, it's a reboot, it's an answer to the way films began and have continued.

AP: Why do you think in writing "Nope" your thoughts went back to the beginning of film?

Peele: Part of the the world of "Nope" is flirting with real Hollywood and the Hollywood that takes place in my liminal dreams and nightmares. In real life, of the prominent Hollywood horse trainers, there's not an African American one I'm representing. The Haywoods are a very made-up family and notion. It was fun to weave the Hollywood fiction with reality and try and make a seamless immersion into what's real and what's not.

AP: Since seeing your film, clouds have taken on a sinister appearance to me. What led you to build your film around that image of an unmoving cloud?

Peele: The beauty of the sky is enthralling — the first movies, in a way. Every now and then you'll see a cloud that sits alone and is too low, and it gives me this vertigo and this sense of

Presence with a capital P. I can't describe it, but I knew if I could bottle that and put it into a horror movie, it might change the way people look at the sky.

AP: When the U.S. government declassified video of Navy pilots encountering unexplained aircraft — something your movie references — how did you react? Were you affected by those images?

Peele: I was. It made it very real, very much in the moment. It's one of the reasons, I guess, I can proudly say this movie is based on a true story. But what was most nerve-wracking or scary to me about the whole thing is that you'd like to think that when actual video proof of UFOs comes out that something would change in our lifestyle, not it's really business as usual. It just proves that there is a desensitization to spectacle. We're addicted and we're in over our heads with this addiction. We have proof of UFOs or UAPs (unidentified aerial phenomena), but the interest with the major public goes so far. It's very interesting.

AP: How focused are you on crafting your own films from the bottom up?

Peele: Nothing is more rewarding than being able to lead the charge on something that comes from somewhere deep, and to get the support of a team on something like that. I feel like if I were working off of someone else's property, I would owe something to someone else. Besides that core piece of inspiration, it just doesn't seem as fun to me.

AP: After "Get Out," you suggested you would embark on a series of genre films that grapple with big societal issues. Three films in, where are you in that project?

Peele: I feel like I'm off to the races. I just don't know if I could limit how many films I have that are me. I'm starting to lose sight of what I would be doing if I wasn't doing movies like this. So I would say the project has extended. □



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MLB players' union rejects international draft proposal

By RONALD BLUM

NEW YORK (AP) — The players' association rejected what Major League Baseball called its final offer for an international draft, a move that will keep direct draft-pick compensation in place for free agents and likely limit the market for some older players.

The union announced its decision about eight hours before Monday's midnight EDT deadline for an agreement, timing specified in the March 10 lockout settlement.

"Each of our proposals was focused on protecting against the scenario that all players fear the most — the erosion of our game on the world stage, with international players becoming the latest victim in baseball's prioritization of efficiency over fundamental fairness," the union said in a statement. "The league's responses fell well short of anything players could consider a fair deal."

The decision keeps in place until December 2026 a system of qualifying offers for free agents that began in 2012. A club can make a qualifying offer following



MLB Commissioner Rob Manfred speaks during the 2022 MLB baseball draft, Sunday, July 17, 2022, in Los Angeles.

Associated Press

the World Series to a free agent who has been with the team since opening day, a one-year contract for the average of the top 125 deals by average annual value. Last year's figure was \$18.4 million.

If a player rejects a qualifying offer and signs elsewhere, the signing team is subject to a loss of one or two amateur draft picks and a reduction in interna-

tional signing bonus pool allotment.

Some older players have found their market lessened because of the compensation. Craig Kimbrel and Dallas Keuchel delayed signing in 2019 until June, after the draft pick compensation no longer was attached.

Among the older players eligible for free agency after this season are Anthony

Rizzo, J.D. Martinez, Chris Sale and Charlie Morton.

Top players have found robust markets. This year's group is headed by Aaron Judge, Jacob deGrom and Trea Turner.

"We are disappointed the MLBPA chose the status quo over transitioning to an international draft that would have guaranteed future international players larger signing bonuses and

better educational opportunities, while enhancing transparency to best address the root causes of corruption in the current system," MLB said in a statement.

An amateur draft was established for residents of the United States and Canada in 1965 and extended to residents of U.S. territories such as Puerto Rico in 1990. MLB has pushed for a similar international amateur draft, saying part of its rationale was to combat illicit agreements made before players are age eligible — either 16 or 15 if the player turns 16 later in the signing period.

MLB proposed last July 28 that a 2024 international draft include spending of \$181 million for the top 600 players and \$190 million in total, up from \$166 million in the 2021 signing period.

Players waited until early this July to make a counteroffer. They proposed a draft be allocated \$260 million for the 2024 signing period, with teams having to guarantee slot values while having the flexibility to exceed them within bonus pools. □

Nigerian Amusan gets world record on wild night in hurdles

By EDDIE PELLIS

EUGENE, Ore. (AP) — First she set the record. Then she won the medal.

Even if the order was awkward, Sunday night at world championships was beautiful for Nigerian hurdler Tobi Amusan.

She won the 100-meter hurdles title about 90 minutes after she opened the final session of the championships by breaking the world record in her semifinal heat with a time of 12.12 seconds.

"When I watched the record, I was like 'Whoa, who did that?'" Amusan said of her reaction upon seeing her time pop up on the scoreboard.

It was a strange sequence of events for the 25-year-old, who finished fourth at the Tokyo Games last year and fourth at the last world championships in 2019, and

now has a place in history as a champion, record-holder and main character in a most unusual night.

The mark surpassed the six-year-old record held by American Keni Harrison by .08.

"Unbelievable," said Switzerland's Noemi Zbaren, who watched the record while she was waiting for her own semifinal. "I had goosebumps when I saw it in the call room."

Back on the track for the final, Amusan won the gold medal in an even faster time — 12.06 seconds, but the wind was too strong, so that didn't go down as yet another record.

For the earlier race, she received a \$100,000 bonus for setting the mark at worlds.

It's rare, but not unheard of, for a track athlete to set a record before the big-

gest race. Florence Griffith-Joyner ran her still-standing record 10.49 in the 100 meters in a prelim at the 1988 Olympic trials.

"I believe in my abilities but I was not expecting a world record at these championships," Amusan said. "The goal is always just to execute well and get the win." Amusan went to college at Texas El-Paso. A person familiar with her career told The Associated Press she had been training partners with another Nigerian UTEP alum, Blessing Okagbare.

Okagbare is currently serving an 11-year ban for multiple doping violations, stemming from a federal investigation into an El Paso doctor who is accused of distributing human-growth hormone and other banned substances.

The person providing the information to the AP spoke



Gold medalist Tobi Amusan, of Nigeria, poses during a medal ceremony for the women's 100-meter hurdles at the World Athletics Championships on Sunday, July 24, 2022, in Eugene, Ore.

Associated Press

on condition of anonymity because Amusan is not connected to that case. After her history-making night, there was nothing but appreciation for the new record holder and new world champion.

"I know what Tobi has gone

through over the years. She's been fourth twice," said Jamaica's Danielle Williams. "I know it's not an easy position. She's been close to throwing (in) the towel. To see her come out here and do this right now, it's amazing." □

Elliott won't celebrate gifted Pocono win after Hamlin DQ

By **DAN GELSTON**
AP Sports Writer

Chase Elliott left Pocono Raceway as a third-place finisher and learned when he landed home in Georgia that he had been declared the race winner.

Whether NASCAR's most popular driver wants to celebrate the victory or not, it's his — Joe Gibbs Racing declined to appeal the penalties levied by NASCAR that stripped Denny Hamlin of his Pocono win and cost Kyle Busch his runner-up finish.

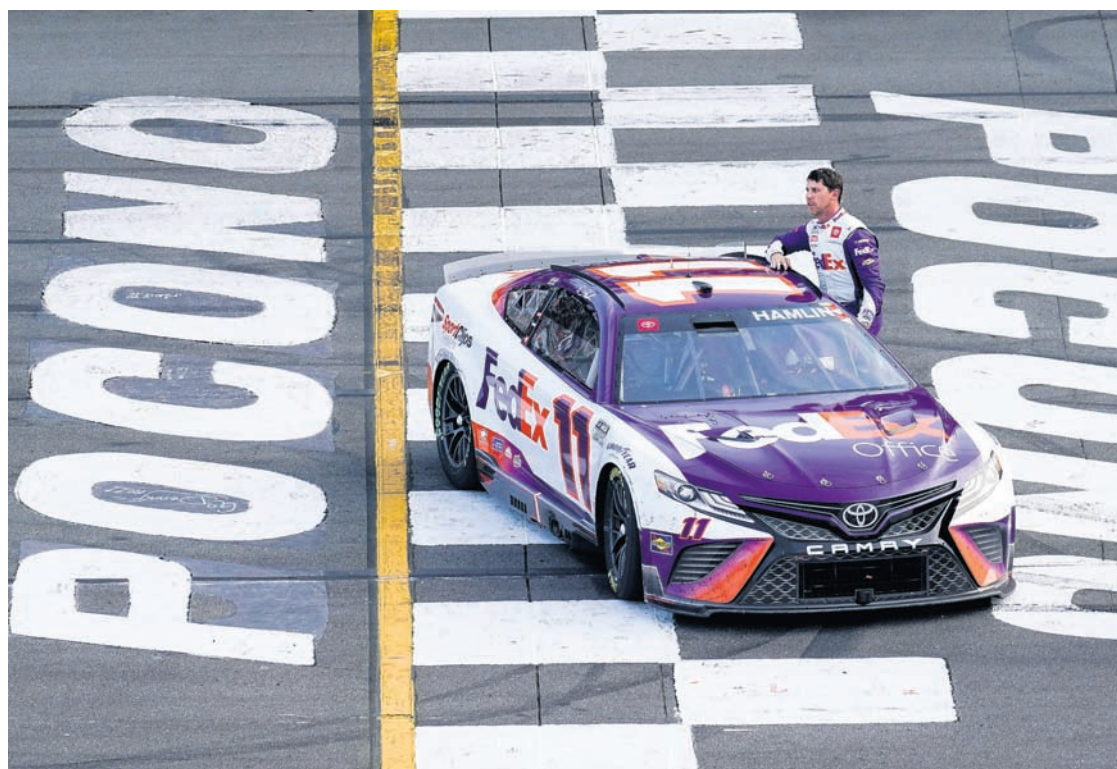
Hamlin was the first Cup winner to be disqualified since April 17, 1960, when Emanuel Zervakis' victory at Wilson Speedway in North Carolina was thrown out because of an oversized fuel tank.

The Toyotas were shipped to NASCAR's research and development center in North Carolina for further evaluation, and additional points or monetary penalties could still be issued against JGR.

Elliott was gifted his fourth win of the season, without the Hendrick Motorsports driver ever leading a lap Sunday in his No. 9 Chevrolet. The series points leader will take the win, even if he doesn't feel great about achieving it without a checkered flag.

"I was probably just kind of more surprised by it than anything," Elliott said Monday. "I don't think any driver wants to win that way. I certainly don't."

Hamlin — who had already



Denny Hamlin (11) gets out of his car after winning a NASCAR Cup Series auto race at Pocono Raceway, Sunday, July 24, 2022, in Long Pond, Pa.

Associated Press

zipped his young daughter around the track on a victory lap — and the rest of the field had long left Pocono when the NASCAR inspection team found issues in both Toyotas that affected the aerodynamics.

"There really was no reason why there was some material that was somewhere it shouldn't have been. And that does basically come down to a DQ," NASCAR Cup Series managing director Brad Moran said Sunday night.

Team owner Joe Gibbs said Sunday he was "shocked" by the ruling and his organization planned "to review every part of the process that led to this situation."

Pushing the edge of the

rulebook — creatively or illegally — has been a part of NASCAR's culture since its inception. But NASCAR toughened its punishments entering the 2019 season in a bolder bid to squash cheating. The biggest shift came in inspections, which nailed the JGR drivers on Sunday. NASCAR ensured post-race inspections would take place at the track instead of midweek at the sanctioning body's research and development center outside of Charlotte, North Carolina.

Winning teams found in violation of the rules before 2019 were penalized with post-race fines, point deductions and/or suspensions. But drivers didn't

have victories taken away from them until then.

For example, Joey Logano kept a 2017 win in Richmond even after a midweek tear-down of his car at the R&D center showed his Team Penske team broke rules. Logano, though, could not count the win toward post-season consideration.

Hamlin won't be so lucky. He lost this third win of the season, his record seventh victory at Pocono and a 49th career win that would have tied him on NASCAR's career list with three-time champion Tony Stewart.

Elliott now gets the winner's purse, but Hamlin will stand as the victor among most major gambling sites. FanDuel Sportsbook said

Monday the house rules state bets are settled on the result of the podium presentation regardless of any subsequent disqualifications. Where things get murky is with fantasy players.

FanDuel said all NASCAR fantasy contests are settled the following day.

The breakdown went like this:

— Elliott received 43 points for finishing first after the post-race inspections.

— Busch received five points for finishing in 36th place due to failing post-race inspection.

— Hamlin earned six fantasy points for finishing 35th. NASCAR could hit JGR with stiffer points penalties and fines than Zervakis faced in 1960. The Associated Press reported that officials held up Zervakis' purse of \$1,275 after he won the race without a pit stop and "carried about a half-gallon of gasoline more than is considered stock in the technical ratings of his 1960 Chevrolet." Joe Weatherly earned the win.

The 27-year-old Elliott, the 2020 Cup Series champion and NASCAR's most popular driver for four straight seasons, said he was moving on from Pocono as if he did indeed finish third. And he said he won't ask for the trophy.

"I'm not going to celebrate someone's misfortune," Elliott said. "That doesn't seem right to me. I crossed the line third. That's kind of how I'm looking at it." □

NYC loans Castellanos to promoted Girona in Spain



New York City FC's Valentin "Taty" Castellanos greets the audience during a ceremony to honor the team's MLS championship win, Dec. 14, 2021, in New York.

Associated Press

NEW YORK (AP) — Major League Soccer scoring leader Valentin "Taty" Castellanos is leaving New York City FC on loan to join newly promoted Girona in the Spanish league.

The 23-year-old Argentine forward has 13 goals in the MLS this season, tied at the top with countryman Sebastián Driussi of Austin FC. NYC said Monday that Castellanos was being loaned to Girona, which like NYC is controlled by City Football Group, the parent compa-

ny of Manchester City. The loan to the Catalan club is until June 2023.

"While it is difficult to leave this club, I strongly believe that this is the right time for me to move to Europe which has always been a personal dream of mine," Castellanos said in a statement released by NYC. "I feel confident and ready for a new challenge."

Castellanos made his professional debut with Torque in Uruguay's second division in 2017. He helped the

club win promotion and was loaned to NYC in July 2018.

NYC exercised its option to buy his rights after the season.

He scored 50 goals in 109 regular-season games, leading the league last season as NYC won its first MLS title. Castellanos won the 2021 MLS Golden Boot award, scoring 19 goals during the regular season and three goals during the MLS Cup Playoffs, including one in the final. □